

IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

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Status of the Iowa Workforce and Economy

2014 Statewide News Release Schedule

Reference Month	Statewide News Release	Local Area News Release
Dec	Jan 28	Jan 28
Jan	Mar 17	Mar 17
Feb	Mar 28	Mar 28
Mar	Apr 18	Apr 22
Apr	May 16	May 20
May	June 20	June 24
June	July 18	July 22
July	Aug 18	Aug 19
Aug	Sept 19	Sept 23
Sept	Oct 21	Oct 21
Oct	Nov 21	Nov 25
Nov	Dec 19	Dec 23
Dec	Jan 27	Jan 27

Iowa Nonfarm Employment by Quarter

	Average Employment	Percent Change from Prior Qtr
2013 - Qtr 1	1,519,900	0.4%
Qtr 2	1,523,800	0.3%
Qtr 3	1,534,400	0.7%
Qtr 4	1,542,900	0.6%
2014 - Qtr 1	1,538,700	-0.3%

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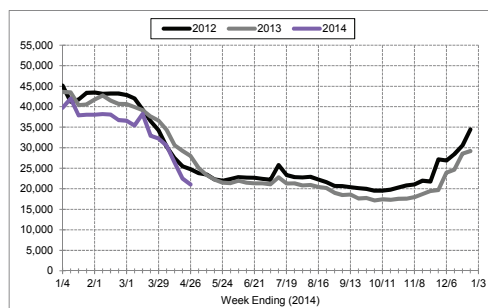
Information Prepared by
Labor Force and Occupational
Analysis Bureau

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Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0209

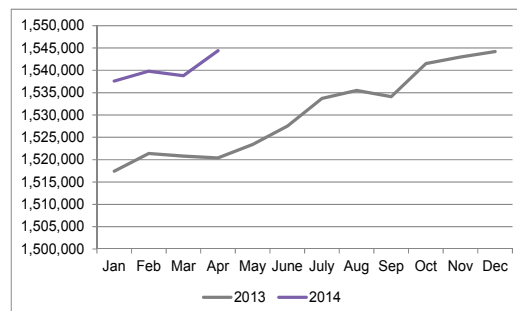
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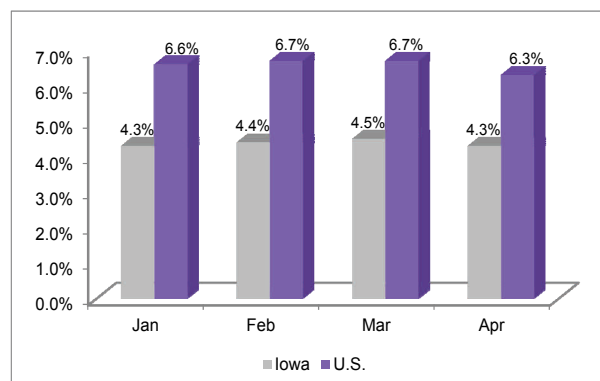
- Iowa's unemployment rate dropped to 4.3 percent in April from a March rate of 4.5 percent. The rate stood at 4.7 percent one year ago.
- Total employment for the state set another new record in April at 1,621,300. This level is 31,600 higher than one year ago.
- The U.S. unemployment rate fell to 6.3 percent in April from 6.7 percent in March. Meanwhile, the nation's economy added 288,000 jobs, the most in two years.

Continued Weeks Claimed Iowa Regular State Unemployment Insurance (UI) Program

- Continued claims under the regular state Unemployment Insurance (UI) program averaged 34,387 per week over the first four months of 2014. This is about ten percent below the average for the same period of 2013.
- The housing market has slowed because first-time homebuyers are remaining on the sidelines. They generally account for 40 percent of home sales.
- During the second half of 2014, expect stronger gains from business investment, residential construction and even a boost from government spending.

Total Nonfarm Employment - Iowa

- Iowa's employers added a robust 5,600 jobs in April, raising total nonfarm employment to a new record of 1,544,400. The April figure is 24,000 higher than one year ago.
- Construction added the most jobs in April (+3,100), followed by trade and transportation (+2,500).
- The trade and transportation sector led the state's over-the-year job growth, adding 5,600 jobs. The only sector to lose jobs over the year was information (-1,200).
- Microsoft announced in April that it will build a new \$1.126 billion data center in West Des Moines. This will bring the company's total investment in Iowa to nearly \$2 billion.

Iowa and U.S. Unemployment Rates - 2014

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Smart Results.